

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, Congressman John W. Olver (D-1st District) released the following in response to the President's State of the Union address.

Middle East Peace

"Brokering a Middle East peace agreement has clearly taken a back seat to the president's other interests."

The Iraq Surge

"The president said the surge would be a short-term effort to give the Iraqis room to make political accommodations."

"The bottom line is that peace and stability for Iraq cannot be secured militarily but only politically. The President's plan is a failure."

The Economy

"Families are struggling every day to pay their bills, heat their homes and pay their mortgages. As we look at the president's plan, it is clear that the administration is not doing enough to address the economic crisis."

"I am glad it looks like something will be done because a compromise package is better than no package at all."

Energy

"The landmark energy legislation that recently became law was a long-overdue first step, but we cannot let the administration off the hook for its failure to address the energy crisis more comprehensively."

FISA Reauthorization

"This is a clear cut case of the administration using fear mongering tactics to expand executive power at the expense of civil liberties."

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